

REMARKS

FORMAL MATTERS:

Claims 1-5, 7, 12, 23-29, 31, 36, 52-61, 63-68, 70, 75, 91-92 and 122-157 are pending after entry of the amendments set forth herein.

Claims 1, 25, 55 and 59 are amended. Support for the amendment is found at, for example, page 26, lines 7-11 of the application of the application as filed.

No new matter is added.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, 2ND ¶

Claims 1-5, 7, 12, 23-29, 31, 36, 52-61, 63-68, 70, 75, 91-92 and 122-157 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite.

Without any intention to acquiesce to the correctness of this rejection and solely to expedite prosecution, claims 1, 25, 55 and 59 have been amended to remove the term “immunoprecipitating” which term the Examiner believes is unclear.

This rejection is now moot and may be withdrawn. Withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, 1ST ¶ (NEW MATTER)

Claims 1-5, 7, 12, 23-29, 31, 36, 52-61, 63-68, 70, 75, 91-92 and 122-157 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement.

Without any intention to acquiesce to the correctness of this rejection and solely to expedite prosecution, claims 1, 25, 55 and 59 have been amended to replace the phrase “wherein said method does not comprise immunoprecipitating said first and second polypeptides” with

“wherein said detected second polypeptide is bound to the substrate”, which is supported in the specification at page 26, lines 7-11.

This rejection is believed to have been addressed and may be withdrawn. Withdrawal of this rejection is requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-4, 7, 12, 23-27, 29, 31, 36, 52-54, 91-92 and 122-157 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by McVey et al. (J. Biol. Chem. 2001 276: 14092-14099). In making this rejection, the Examiner states: “McVey et al teach a method of detecting human GPCR receptor oligomerization by coexpressing in the same cell and immunoprecipitating the receptors together (pages 14092 and 14094)”.

Claims 1-4, 7, 12, 23-27, 29, 31, 36, 52-61, 63-68, 70, 75, 91-92 and 122-157 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Jordan et al. (Nature 1999 399:697-700). In making this rejection, the Examiner states: “Jordan et al teach a method of detecting human GPCR oligomerization by coexpressing in the same cell different combinations of GPCR and immunoprecipitating the receptors together (pages 697-699)”.

McVey and Jordan do not disclose a method that comprises “detecting the presence of said second polypeptide on the substrate”, where “said detected second polypeptide is bound to the substrate”, as required by the rejected claims. As such, McVey and Jordan cannot anticipate the claims, and this rejection may be withdrawn.

Withdrawal of these rejections is therefore requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that all of the claims are in condition for allowance, which action is requested. If the Examiner finds that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extensions of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0815, order number AREN-065.

Respectfully submitted,
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